



STATE OF LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE CIVIL SERVICE
LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS
P. O. BOX 4368
BATON ROUGE, LA 70821
(225) 219-5600
FAX: (225) 381-7271
1-800-842-6630
www.ethics.la.gov

April 24, 2018

Ms. Sandi T. Burley
Secretary of Concordia Parish Police Jury
4001 Carter Street
Vidalia, Louisiana 71373

Re: Ethics Board Docket No. 2018-208

Dear Ms. Burley:

The Louisiana Board of Ethics, at its April 20, 2018 meeting, considered your request for an advisory opinion regarding whether the Code of Governmental Ethics would prohibit Concordia Parish Section 8 housing program from being overseen by Lasalle Community Action Association, Inc. (LCAA) while two of the Concordia Parish Police Jurors are associated with LCAA. Juror Willie Dunbar serves as a Vice-President of LCAA and Juror Joseph Parker was an employee of LCAA. You stated that Juror Dunbar is not compensated for his service on the LCAA board and that Juror Parker retired from LCAA on April 13th of this year. Prior to his retirement Juror Parker was a salaried employee who did not work on any Section 8 housing issues for LCAA.

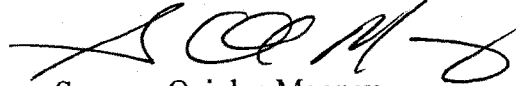
The LCAA is a non-profit organization that administers federal and state funded programs to help low income people become more self-sufficient through utility assistance, nutritional assistance, housing assistance, job placement and preschool program. LCAA services several parishes. The non-profit administers programs for those facing poverty and low income families in Caldwell, Catahoula, East Carroll, Concordia, Grant, Jackson, Franklin, West Carroll, Madison, Ouachita, Richland, Tensas, Winn and LaSalle parishes.

The Board concluded, and instructed me to advise you, that generally La. R.S. 42:1112B(3) prohibits a public servant from participating in a governmental transaction in which any person of which he is an officer, director, trustee, partner, or employee has a substantial economic interest. However, it appears that the exception found in La. R.S. 42:1123(1) would allow for Juror Dunbar to participate in transactions regarding the LCAA since the LCAA is a public service organization and he receives no compensation. La. R.S. 42:1123(1) allows for participation in the affairs of charitable, religious, nonprofit education, public service, or civic organizations when no compensation is received. However, the Board cautions Juror Dunbar if the circumstances ever changed and he was to be compensated by the LCAA for his service on the Board please request a new advisory opinion prior to accepting the compensation.

This advisory opinion is based solely on the facts as set forth herein. Changes to the facts presented may result in a different application of the provisions of the Code of Ethics. The Board issues no opinion as to past conduct or laws other than Code of Governmental Ethics. If you have any questions, please contact me at (225) 219-5600 or (800) 842-6630.

Sincerely,

LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Suzanne Quinlan Mooney', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Suzanne Quinlan Mooney
For the Board